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General Publications

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# MILITARY (HOSPITALS COMMISSION) BULLETIN

No. 1.

OTTAWA, CANADA.

MARCH, 1916.

## FOREWORD.

In sending out the first Bulletin, it has been thought desirable to present therein the lines along which the Commission and its co-operating Associations are working at present, adding thereto a statement of the Regulations governing pay, subsistence allowance and general matters, as many enquiries are reaching the Federal and Provincial Commissions on these subjects.

The Commission expects to issue bulletins dealing more specifically with various phases of its work from time to time.

## BULLETIN OF INFORMATION

ISSUED BY

THE MILITARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION  
OF CANADA

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Appointed by Order-in-Council.

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## OBJECTS OF THE COMMISSION.

The Military Hospitals Commission was formed by Order-in-Council, dated June 30, 1915, for the purpose of providing Convalescent Homes and Medical treatment for Returned Invalided and Wounded Members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Shortly after its formation it was recognized that it would be necessary to extend the benefit of this treatment to men who had enlisted, but had not proceeded overseas. Later, it was decided by the Prime Minister that the powers of the Commission should be extended to cover the matter of the vocational re-education of those who through their disability might be unable to follow their previous occupations; also that the necessary machinery, in the form of Provincial Commissions and local committees should be installed in order to provide employment, not only for disabled men, but, at the close of the war, for the able-bodied as well. A revised Order-in-Council was therefore passed.

## INTER-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

A Conference was held in Ottawa on the 19th and 20th of October, 1915, between the Commission and representatives of the Provincial Governments. All the Provinces sent Ministers, with the exception of British Columbia. A memorandum was adopted agreeing to the main recommendations of a Report which was submitted to this Conference. (Sessional paper, No. 10, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 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Those for the Maritime Provinces are dealt with at St. John.

The procedure at the Discharge Depot is as follows: All the men are taken before a Medical Board, consisting of three members. The records of previous examinations in England are gone over, and are either confirmed or discredited. The men are then classified as stated below.

#### Class 1.

Men for immediate discharge without a pension.

(a) Unit for overseas service but capable to take up their previous civilian occupation.

(b) Disability not the result of service or involving claim as the result of or benefited by service.

#### Class 2.

Men whose condition may be benefited by further medical treatment or rest in a Convalescent Home, Hospital or Sanatorium. If deemed advisable in some cases the medical officer in charge of the Convalescent Home, Hospital or Sanatorium may grant these men leave to return to their own homes and families for a definite period.

#### Class 3.

Men having a permanent disability which would not be benefited by further medical treatment or rest in a Convalescent Home, Hospital or Sanatorium, and whose cases will immediately be considered by the Pensions Board in view to a pension.

Men in this class will receive whatever benefits special instruction or appliances can give them.

#### Clothing.

Before leaving the Discharge Depot, all men are supplied with suitable underclothing, of which three weights are kept: (1) medium (2) heavy (3) extra heavy; they are also supplied, should they require them, with a new pair of boots of army regulation quality. Men in Classes 1 and 3 are also furnished with a suit of civilian clothes, and an overcoat and cap, or, if they prefer, are credited in their account with \$13 in lieu thereof. (As the quality of these goods could not be matched anywhere in Canada for the money, very few elect to take the \$13). There is a large selection of suits of clothes and there are several different kinds of overcoats; (a) a long coat, suitable for the Maritime Provinces or British Columbia. (b) a short coat, lined with pony-skin, with fur-lined collar, (c) a short coat, lined with sheep-skin, and (d) a reefer coat lined with leather; (b), (c) and (d) being suitable for any part of Canada.

#### Pay.

With regard to pay, each man's account is supposed to be made up by the Authorities in England before he leaves, and a last pay certificate passed among his papers which are delivered by the Officer in charge of the party to the Officer in charge of the Discharge Depot; but in some cases this last pay certificate is missing, which occasions delay and annoyance. Until the last three months, men were paid a considerable sum at Quebec, but, owing to the fact that some men arrived at their destinations without any money, this has been discontinued, and now no man is paid more than \$10 at Quebec, unless the Officer in charge of the Discharge Depot considers that he requires a larger sum. A further sum, varying from \$50 to \$100 according to the amount of this accrued pay, is forwarded at once to the Paymaster of the Division or District to which the man is going. Until January 31, further sums which were due were paid from Militia Headquarters in Ottawa; since that date all accounts of men in Class 2 have been dealt with by the Paymaster of the Division or District.

#### REGULATIONS re PAY OF RETURNED MEMBERS OF THE C.E.F.

The following is a summary of the Militia regulations regarding pay:—

(a) Men in Class 1 receive their arrears of pay, plus fifteen days pay and subsistence allowance.

(b) Married men in Class 2 or single men who are the sole support of a widowed mother to whom they assigned a portion of their pay and to whom separation allowance was granted, receive a sum on account of accrued pay, plus one month's advance pay and subsistence allowance. Other single men in this class receive accrued pay, plus one month's advance pay, but no subsistence allowance.

(c) Men in Class 3 receive a sum on account of accrued pay, plus one month's pay and subsistence allowance. They are retained on pay and allowance from Headquarters until the date of their pensions.

The rate of pay for a Private is one dollar per day plus ten cents per day field allowance, and the subsistence allowance is from sixty cents to eighty-five cents per day.

When a Private in Class 2 is admitted to a Convalescent Home he receives free treatment plus his pay of \$1.10 per day. If he is married his wife is granted an allowance of \$30 per month, termed Separation Allowance. Privates in Class 2, whether married or unmarried, who are permitted to go to their homes, (out-patients) receive \$1.10 per day plus Subsistence Allowance, 80 cents per day. Separation Allowance is issued to the wife whether the man is in a Convalescent Home or at his own home. During February, 75 cents per day was paid to the wives of 100 men in Convalescent Homes, and 85 cents per day if they were in their own homes for Subsistence in lieu of Separation Allowance. Previous to January 31, the Subsistence Allowance was 75 cents per day, whether a man was in the Convalescent Home or at his own home. All men who are under pay are required to assign at least \$15 per month to their wives. In the case of men in Class 2 this amount is deducted from the \$1.10 per day payable as above and is added to the \$30 per month payable to the wives, making a total of \$35 per month.

A number of cases have arisen where men have been placed by the Medical Board in Class 1 and have been given an immediate discharge, or a post-dated discharge, and later have been found to be unfit to earn their living and to require treatment. A regulation has therefore been issued by the Paymaster General of the Militia Department, by which any man who, upon further medical examination, is certified to be unfit for work, may be re-classified, and reinstated on pay and allowance from the date to which he was previously paid up. This also applies to some men who have been placed in Class 3.

If the case of a man prematurely discharged has reached the pension stage, it is necessary that a special amending Order-in-Council be prepared and passed by the Governor General in Council if this man is to be re-instated on the pay-roll.

Any men whose cases might fall under either of the two preceding paragraphs should make application to the Assistant Director of Medical Services of their Division or District for re-examination.

#### Transportation.

Arrangements have been made with the Railway Companies for transportation of returned members of the C.E.F. to their homes in first-class cars when the distance is short, and in tourist cars when a night journey is involved. Three meals per day are supplied by the Railway Company at 50c each, the bill being paid by the Militia Department. In the transportation of men from St. John to Quebec by special train, the Intercolonial Railway attaches to the train a commissariat capable of supplying a much larger number of meals at one sitting than the ordinary dining car. The fare is of the best quality, and there is ample provision.

In every case, telegraphic advice is sent by the officer in charge of the Discharge Depot to the military authorities in the Division or District to which men are going, giving the names of the men and the train by which they are travelling. Further advice is sent by an officer of the Commission attached to the Discharge Depot, to the Secretaries of the Provincial Commissions. The Railway Companies also co-operate in the matter by permitting their conductors to advise by telegraph, without charge, the Welcome Committees at points en route.

Considerable criticism has been occasioned by the fact that where men are booked through to a definite destination they sometimes leave the train at intervening points where they have friends, and are lost track of for varying periods. This difficulty is now being obviated by placing the party in charge of an officer or a non-commissioned officer from Quebec who accompanies it to its destination. Permission may be given by the Officer in charge of the Discharge Depot for a man to break his journey at a given point, if he requests this privilege, and he is then given leave for a certain number of days. By this arrangement it is now assured that when information is forwarded from Quebec that a certain number of men are travelling on a particular train these men will arrive at their destination, or else the officer in charge of the party will be able to explain a man's non-arrival with the party. In consequence of this the Welcome Committees which are doing such excellent work in many centres are enabled to make their arrangements to meet every returning man.

#### REGULATIONS re MEDICAL BOARDS AND DISCHARGE FROM CONVALESCENT HOMES.

The Officers in charge of Convalescent Homes have been notified as follows:—

"It is especially desirable that action in the following instances be covered by the proceedings of a Medical Board—

- (1) Discharge (under any circumstances).
- (2) Re-admittance to a Convalescent Home and issue of pay.
- (3) For final consideration by the Pensions and Claims Board.
- (4) Extension of a previously estimated period of disability.
- (5) Return to pay.

"In the case of Class 2 men, who after treatment in hospital or convalescent home are re-boarded and placed into Class 1 for immediate discharge, their discharge should be dated fifteen days ahead of the actual date they are due to leave the home or hospital in order that they may receive fifteen days pay and subsistence allowance in the same way as men placed in Class 1 on arrival at the Discharge Depot.

"Those men on being re-boarded at the convalescent hospital or home who are placed in Class 3 for pension, would of course not be discharged but retained on pay until such time as their pension is granted.

"In both cases when the men are discharged either to Class 1 or Class 3, they will be granted an allowance for purchase of civilian clothing amounting to \$13 in winter, when an overcoat is to be provided, and \$8 in summer, provided the men are without

suitable civilian clothes. The cash allowance will not be issued if a man has suitable civilian clothes available on discharge."

British or other Allied Army or Navy Reservists.

The Commission has agreed to recognize the British or other allied army or navy reservists who have left Canada during the period of the war for active service.

These men will be given free treatment in a Convalescent Home if they require it, and will be dealt with exactly as members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force when applications for employment are received. Instructions have been issued by the Department of Militia and Defence that these men should be properly fed en route from the port of disembarkation to their inland destination, and that if proper provision for this has not been made Overseas, the food should be supplied at the expense of the Government of Canada.



## REGULATIONS REGARDING MARRIAGE OF MEMBERS OF THE C.E.F.

In view of the numerous enquiries which have been received as to the conditions governing men who marry after enlistment, the following copy of a report of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Royal Highness the Governor General, on January 28, 1915, is included in this bulletin.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated January 23, 1915, from the Acting Minister of Militia and Defence, stating that applications have been received from men who have enlisted in the Corps raised for Overseas Service to be allowed to marry and to have their wives placed on the Separation Allowance list, and that many have already married since enlistment without asking permission and are claiming this allowance.

The Minister observes that these applications have hitherto been refused on the ground that the Separation Allowance was intended to provide for families of married men who had enlisted as such and whose families would, otherwise, be in want or become a heavy burden on the Patriotic Fund, and that it was not the Government's intention to encourage the men to marry after enlistment as that would increase the already heavy expenses under Separation Allowance, and in case of the soldier's death would necessitate placing his widow on the Pension list.

As, however, the applications hitherto received, are from men who had prior to enlistment, given a promise to marry, the Minister recommends that, in consideration of this and the sudden call for volunteers, permission to marry be granted provided the application has the recommendation of the Officer Commanding the Corps in which the man is serving and that the marriage takes place within twenty days after the publication of this Order; and that, as regards application of this kind from men enlisted in the C.E.F., permission be granted only to those who apply at the time of enlistment and that if not married within twenty days thereafter the permission be cancelled.

The Committee concur in the foregoing and submit the same for approval.

(Sgd.) RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,  
Clerk of the Privy Council.

## FUNCTIONAL AND VOCATIONAL RE-EDUCATION.

The Commission is giving serious attention to this branch of its work, the aim of which is to give to the soldier such technical training as will restore him, as nearly as possible, to his previous physical state, and fit him to undertake new employment if his disability prevents his following his former occupation.

The Commission, in order to get technical advice, has secured as Vocational Secretary, Mr. T. B. Kidner, who has an English experience in these lines, and has been active in similar work in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta. The Honourable Mr. McLeannan is also giving special attention to the particular phase of functional re-education.

It has been realized at the outset that both physical and mental training must be carried on concurrently in order to obtain the best results. The value of occupation on its own account is universally recognized, and when the painful state of the wounds has passed away, a soldier, before complete restoration, has much time which can be used in fitting him for civil life.

The Commission has found that it is under the necessity of taking some action as nearly 1,900 men are now under treatment; on the other hand it must avoid mistakes in dealing hastily with the matter. The difficulty in the way of setting in operation a plan which will secure the best results arises from the fact that many questions in regard to these matters are still unsettled. This is not peculiar to Canada. It has been found to exist by all those who devoted attention to this phase of care for the soldier in European countries, even in Germany, where, within a fortnight of the breaking out of the war, this matter was placed in the hands of an already existing Association of all Institutions for the care of the crippled; while France and England are taking action while the authorities, as with us, regard as still experimental.

In order to reduce the bad effects on the character of the men, owing to prolonged stays in hospitals, which are well recognized by medical men and social workers, the Commission has begun the establishment, aided by the Provincial Commissions, of schools at the Convalescent Homes; at the moment, principally for the improvement of the men in general education, or in such manual work as will prove recreative. The necessity for this will be seen by all, when it is pointed out that no small number of the wounded men now returned to Canada received their injuries in the great battles of the spring of 1915. It also seems clear that comparatively few of the men who may have to be

educated in some vocation, will not be benefited by this preliminary work, carried out during the time when they were not yet strong enough to undertake the more serious labour of training in some new wage-earning occupation. The man for example who desires to become an electrical engineer and who left school at 14 or 15, must brush up his general education before he can, with any profit, undertake this special training. It has been found advisable to carry on this education in the hospitals in England, indeed Lord Astor has already begun this work at Cliveden.

While the vocational re-education is being given only to returned soldiers who are unfitted to carry on their former occupations, these classes when established, will be open to all inmates of Convalescent Homes, or those who can avail themselves of the teaching therein.

The aim of the Commission is to give every wounded or crippled man such assistance as may be necessary to make him an independent and productive member of the community; to help all agencies which shall stimulate those qualities of heart and mind which will make him a further service to the nation as an example of courage, ingenuity and self reliance. If progress in accomplishing results seems slow, it is because these branches of our work are foreign to the Dominion of two years ago, and their problems perplex the highly organized administrations of the Old World.

The Commission so far has found evidence of a wish on the part of the medical authorities of the Militia Department, the officials of our Convalescent Homes, the members of the Provincial Commissions, medical men of eminence, as well as among private workers that this part of our work be made effective.

Another bulletin, to be issued before long, will deal further with this phase of the work of the Commission, which will welcome any suggestion concerning this part of its activities.

## LAND SETTLEMENT.

It is expected that a considerable number of men who return from the Front will be anxious to take up land, and this Commission is now conferring with the various Provincial Governments with a view to the formulation of a definite land settlement scheme. The Economic and Development Commission is also going closely into this matter, and as both Commissions are under the Presidency of the Honourable Senator Lough there will be no difficulty in securing efficient and active co-operation.

## ACTIVITIES OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONS.

**Ontario.**—The following are members of the Ontario Soldiers Aid Commission, whose office is at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto:—

W. D. McPherson, Esq., K.C., M.P.P., Toronto,  
Chairman.  
John B. Laidlaw, Esq., Toronto.  
Robert J. Christie, Esq., Toronto.  
William Banks, Esq., Toronto.  
Honourable Senator Gordon, North Bay.  
Kenneth W. McKay, Esq., St. Thomas.  
Ernest J. Henderson, Esq., Windsor.  
W. F. Nickle, Esq., M.P., Kingston.  
George Lynch Staunton, Esq., K.C., Hamilton.  
W. L. Best, Esq., Ottawa.  
J. Warwick, Esq., Assistant Secretary.

An organization meeting of this Commission was held in the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, on November 17th, 1915, when the scope of the work was clearly defined, and proposals for action adopted. A report of this meeting has been published by the Commission. Notwithstanding the large number of men returning to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions, the Commission has been successful in finding employment for all who are able to work. Up to January 27th, 200 had been placed in situations.

**Quebec.**—The Quebec Commission is known as the Soldiers' Employment Bureau with offices at 64-65 Dandurand Building, Montreal. The following are members of the Quebec Commission:—  
Honourable G. A. Simard, Montreal, Chairman.  
Alphonse Verville, Esq., M.P., Maisonneuve.  
Honourable G. E. Amyot, M.L.C., Quebec.  
Smeaton White, Esq., Montreal.  
Jas. A. McManamy, Esq., Quebec.  
A. K. Cameron, Esq., Westmont.  
J. K. Edwards, Esq., Sherbrooke.  
Phili. L. Esande, Esq., Thetford.  
Fernand Rinfret, Esq., Montreal, Honorary Secretary.

W. G. MacKenzie, Esq., Montreal, Honorary Secretary.  
P. L. McCabe, Esq., Secretary.

During December 95 applications from men desiring employment were received. Special letters of intro-

duction were given to 80, open letters to 15. 79 soldiers were placed in positions, while 9 were offered positions but refused them.

**Nova Scotia.**—The Returned Soldiers Employment Committee with offices at the Metropole Building, Halifax, N.S., is constituted with the following members:—

Honourable R. M. McGregor, New Glasgow, Chairman.  
Sir Frederick Fraser, Halifax.  
Honourable Mr. Justice Harris, Halifax.  
John J. Joy, Esq., Halifax.  
D. H. McDougall, Esq., Glace Bay.  
Thomas J. Brown, Esq., Sydney Mines.  
Honourable John S. McLeannan, Sydney.  
G. Fred. Pearson, Esq., Halifax.  
F. H. Sexton, Esq., B.S., Halifax.  
William R. Wakley, Esq., Halifax.  
Wensley B. MacCoy, Esq., L.L.B., Halifax, Secretary.

The following is an excerpt from a report received from the Secretary:—

The Committee to co-operate in the Province of Nova Scotia with the Military Hospitals Commission was appointed on the 22nd day of November, 1915, and held its first meeting on the 24th day of November, 1915, adopting the name of the Returned Soldiers' Employment Committee (Nova Scotia).

It was decided that the first thing necessary was to get a proper understanding throughout the whole Province of the aims, powers and purposes for which the Committee was created, and asking for their earnest and close co-operation and in particular to report at once the name or names of any returned soldiers who were unable to find employment, together with such additional information as they might think required by the Committee in order to find suitable employment.

Special statements were prepared for all the Newspapers, Cycles and Motorcycles, and leading Citizens, as well as for Ministers, Doctors, and Secretaries of Patriotic Associations. With these circulating an employment data card has been enclosed, made up in the following form:—

File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
M. H. C. File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Employment Data.  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Regt and Batta. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Married or Single \_\_\_\_\_ If married, how many children \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of enlistment \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of disability \_\_\_\_\_  
Give kind of work performed, and names of employers engaged with before enlistment \_\_\_\_\_  
What weekly wage did the man earn before enlistment? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is he so much disabled that he cannot follow his former work? \_\_\_\_\_  
What attempts has he made to find employment \_\_\_\_\_  
Is it necessary for him to find work at or near his present home? \_\_\_\_\_  
What kind of work will be suitable \_\_\_\_\_

Circular letters to all the Educational Institutions were also prepared and sent out with proper forms to be filled in and sent to the Committee. Wherever there existed appliances and equipment in Public Schools which might be adapted to the training of disabled soldiers, a request was sent to the various School Trustees that the use of such equipment, and also further accommodation in the way of rooms, instruction, etc., be granted. All of this correspondence was used in the way of not only ascertaining what educational resources existed, but to find out to what extent they were available for the special purpose of training returned soldiers. The response to this appeal was hearty and genuine in its promise of co-operation. The information is nearly complete, and will be condensed into a report for the Military Hospitals Commission at a later date.

**New Brunswick.**—The Returned Soldiers Aid Committee, 49 Canterbury St., St. John, N.B., is made up of the following members:—

Thomas Bell, Esq., St. John, Chairman.  
Honourable J. B. M. Baxter, St. John.  
T. Carleton Allen, Esq., L.L.D., Fredericton.  
J. E. Masters, Esq., Moncton.  
Dr. L. M. Bourque, Moncton.  
R. V. Bennett, Esq., Hopewell Cape.  
M. B. Burns, Esq., Bathurst.  
I. A. Gagnon, Esq., Edmundston.  
J. L. Surges, Esq., St. John.  
John H. Peat, Esq., Andover.  
J. D. Creighton, Esq.,  
Donald Munro, Esq., Secretary.

The Province has been mapped into Districts, each member of the Commission taking charge of a given area. It is hoped by this means to have adequate arrangements made for giving employment to all who need it in the Province.

**Prince Edward Island.**—The Returned Soldiers Commission, Box 806, Charlottetown, P.E.I., is made up of the following members:—

Honourable J. A. Matheson, Chairman.  
Frank R. Heartz, Esq., Charlottetown.  
Charles Lyons, Esq., Charlottetown.  
Honourable Arthur E. R. Armitage, Summerside.  
Neil McLeod, Esq., Summerside.  
John A. Macdonald, Esq., Georgetown.  
James D. Stewart, Esq., Georgetown.  
Miss Nellie Gillespie, Secretary.



Very few men have returned to this Province, up to date the number being less than 10. No difficulty has been met with in providing employment. The Commission has secured an offer of the Charles Dalton Sanatorium which has just been completed, and which has been placed at the disposal of the Military Hospitals Commission if it is required.

**Manitoba**—The Provincial Returned Soldiers Commission, 485 Lombard St. Winnipeg, Man., consists of the following members:—

Sir Daniel McMillan, K.O.M.G., Chairman.  
Honourable T. C. Norris, Winnipeg.  
A. M. Nanton, Esq., Winnipeg.  
J. H. Ashdown, Esq., Winnipeg.  
G. V. Hastings, Esq., Winnipeg.  
G. W. Allan, Esq., Winnipeg.  
J. S. Willmott, Esq., Brandon.  
Lieut. Colonel C. W. Rowley, Winnipeg.  
T. Healey, Esq., J.P., Winnipeg.  
F. J. Baker, Esq., Winnipeg.  
Albert Pearce, Esq., Secretary.

Arrangements were made some time ago to call a conference of the mayors and trustees of all municipalities in Manitoba in order that the question of employment for returned soldiers might be discussed. This conference was held on February 16 and was presided over by Sir Daniel McMillan.

"Many of the mayors reported what was being done in their respective cities and towns and many expressions of determination to organize and effect associations similar to that established in Winnipeg were made. Because of the fact soldiers from all parts of Manitoba, and treats them cordially here, the mayors and trustees also avowed that they would get their councils and financial support to Winnipeg.

At the close of the meeting the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this meeting of representatives from cities, towns, and municipalities in the province of Manitoba hereby pledge themselves to co-operate with the Returned Soldiers Association in connection with the Military Hospitals Commission of Canada in the promotion of the welfare of returned soldiers and that the delegates to this meeting shall individually to organize or assist in organizing each in its own town or municipality or in any such other way as may be most effective a local committee to carry out the objects of the Returned Soldiers Commission, and the Military Hospitals Commission."

Before the holding of this meeting the following form was sent to each municipality:—

**Returned Soldiers Manitoba Commission.**

Town or Municipality.....  
Mayor or Reeve.....  
How many men have enlisted from your district (approximately)?.....  
How many men have your Council in their employ?.....  
Can you find employment for returned soldiers?.....  
Would you be willing to give returned soldiers preference as regards employment on municipal work?.....  
Have you any ways or means of taking care of convalescent soldiers?.....  
Kindly give the names and addresses of Public or Private Hospitals and Convalescent Homes in your jurisdiction who would be willing to receive returned soldiers as paying guests?.....

Have you any organization who looks after the returned soldiers on their arrival? If not, could you organize one?.....  
Remarks.....

**British Columbia**—The Returned Soldiers Aid Commission (B.C.), Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., is composed of the following members:—

Honourable H. E. Young, M.D., L.D., M.P.P.,  
A. Stewart, Esq., Mayor of Victoria.  
A. W. Gray, Esq., Mayor of New Westminster.  
A. E. Planta, Esq., Mayor of Nanaimo.  
Alderman Joseph Hoskins, Vancouver.  
A. C. Burdick, Esq., Victoria.  
E. W. Hamner, Esq., Vancouver.  
J. H. Hill, Esq., Secretary.

A Circular letter was addressed to the Mayors, Reeves, and Government agents throughout the Province of British Columbia shortly after the formation of the Provincial Commission. As a result seventeen centres had formed local Committees up to January 12th and at that date, 210 reports regarding returned soldiers had been received through the head office of the Commission.

The Provincial Commission has appointed special Committees to prepare plans under which technical and agricultural training will be provided.

**Saskatchewan**—The Saskatchewan Division of the Military Hospitals Commission, Leader Building, Regina, Sask., is made up of the following members:—

Hon. Mr. Justice Elwood, Regina, Chairman.  
His Worship the Mayor of Regina.  
His Worship the Mayor of Saskatoon.  
His Worship the Mayor of Moose Jaw.  
J. W. Smith, Esq., Regina.  
R. H. Chndwick, Esq., Moose Jaw.  
J. A. Maharg, Esq., Moose Jaw.  
G. Harmon Jones, Esq., Secretary.

The following report has been submitted by the Secretary:

The Provincial Commission first met on November 25th, and it was decided that a conference of representatives from all the leading interests in the Province should be held in Regina, on November 29th. The Secretary immediately began the work of issuing invitations to the representatives of the Province and some 2,500 of these were mailed in the regular course.

The conference was a large, representative and enthusiastic gathering and the objects of the Commission and the scope of work were set forth in splendid address by such men as Hon. Robert Rogers, Hon. George A. Bell, Mr. Justice Elwood, Mr. C. D. Houghay, M.L.A., W. M. Martin, M.P., Mr. J. A. Maharg, Mr. M. Perry and others. The convention finally set forth a definite plan in two resolutions which were both adopted. The motions were as follows:

Moved by Mayor Harrison, Saskatoon; Seconded by Mr. J. W. Smith, Regina.

- That in the opinion of the Convention it is advisable to proceed to the organization of local units within the Province, to be called, "Returned Soldiers Welcome and Aid League of....."
- "That it is advisable that such leagues should be organized in every city, town, village and rural municipality."
- That such league shall be organized at a public meeting to be advertised and called by the local chief civic officer.
- That the constitution of such leagues shall provide such officers and committees as the public meeting may deem necessary.

The encouragement given to all interested persons to become members of such league, and the fact that for many months the Commission has been in contact with the public, will be such as may meet with the popular approval.

**MOTION II.**

Moved by Mayor Pascoe, Moose Jaw; Seconded by Mr. R. J. Chadwick, Moose Jaw.

That it shall be the duty of such leagues:

- To notify head office, without delay, re organization of such league and furnish list of officers, plan of work, etc.
- To furnish a hearty welcome to every soldier returning from the front.
- To endeavour to find suitable employment for all such returned soldiers.
- To furnish head office with complete information regarding the disposition of all such cases, or of any case that may fall into the power of the local league to deal with.
- To advise head office and furnish lists of names of applicants for returned soldiers' allowances.
- Together with such further duties as in the opinion of the Commission will further the interests of the league.
- And in general, to create and maintain a strong patriotic sentiment in favour of the valiant men who have borne the nation's burden at the price of personal loss.

The Secretary has since the Convention, sent out literature of various kinds to the seven hundred cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities of the Province, furnishing them with instructions and information regarding the formation of Returned Soldiers Welcome and Aid Leagues. Quite a large number of these have already sent in reports of their organization on the official forms and practically all of them have shown their interest in the work and will complete their organization later as the necessity arises. The Secretary has urged from the Central Office the advisability of being organized in advance of the need and we anticipate no difficulty whatever in carrying out the returning soldiers through these local leagues.

In addition to organization of leagues, the Commission has made the main business of the Secretary, Mr. Justice Elwood, to arrange for the taking over by the Federal Military Hospitals Commission of the St. Chad's Anglican, situated at sixteen Avenue, Regina, to be used as a convalescent home for returned soldiers.

In connection with the matter of the St. Chad's Anglican, for the purposes named, the following statement was given out by his Lordship, the Bishop of Qu'Appelle: "During the last few weeks the Board of St. Chad's College has had under consideration the possibility of offering the College building to the Military Hospitals Commission for the use of wounded and sick soldiers returning from the scene of action. Two-thirds of the students have enlisted. It is possible for the warden to make provision for the remaining students by using the warden's lodge and a portion of the west wing. Accordingly the Council of the College, with the sanction of the executive committee of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, has given the entire west wing and part of the east wing to the Military Hospitals Commission during the war and if necessary for twelve months after the war. Both the Council of the St. Chad's College and the executive Committee of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle were unanimous in desiring the college to be used for the benefit of the returning soldiers."

On account of the considerable distance from the city, the Provincial Commission is not offered the same facilities of our work.

The Secretary is securing passes over all the lines of railway and will be able to give a closer personal supervision in future to the work of the local leagues.

G. HARMON JONES, Secretary.

January 6, 1916.

**Alberta**—The Central Provincial Committee of the Military Hospitals Commission, Government Buildings, Edmonton, is made up of the following members:—

Honourable Chas. W. Fisher, Cochrane, Chairman.  
M. C. Costello, Esq., Mayor of Calgary.  
W. T. Henry, Esq., Mayor of Edmonton.  
Alex. Ross, Esq., Calgary.  
Howard Stutchbury, Esq., Secretary.

The Alberta Commission has accomplished a great deal of excellent work since its formation. The Province has been divided into two districts with headquarters at Edmonton and Calgary respectively. Since its formation there have been formed in Edmonton and Calgary and various Committees appointed on Welfare, Finance, Education, etc. Local committees have been organized all over the Province. The Department of Education has furnished the Commission

with a report which is likely to form the basis for aggressive educational work among the returned soldiers who are unable to follow their previous occupations because of their disability.

The Honourable J. R. Boyle, Minister of Education, has also made an offer on behalf of the Government, to admit returned soldiers to the Provincial Normal Schools if they possess educational qualifications equal to Grade X of the Province, which represents at least one year less of High school work than the regular standard of admission. The Province would undertake to give academic and professional training during a course of one year, to qualify for teaching. As there has been for some years an insufficient supply of qualified teachers in Alberta, there should be little difficulty in finding employment for any men who might undertake the course.

**CIVIC COMMITTEES.**

**Winnipeg**—A large number of Civic Committees have been formed in different parts of the Dominion and are doing most useful work. The most prominent of these is the Returned Soldiers Association of Winnipeg. This organization not only has provided a Club room in connection with the Army and Navy Veterans Association, but has raised money and has looked after the wives and families of returned soldiers. Its activity covers a wide range. One method of raising money adopted, which is also being followed in other centres is the issue of a membership button at \$5.00. No returned soldier residing in Manitoba or passing through Winnipeg to a point further west, and requiring assistance in any shape or form, is left without a helping hand.

**Toronto**—A well organized Committee known as the Voluntary Aid Association Returned Soldiers Welcome Home Committee has been at work for a considerable time. Excellent arrangements have been made whereby the men are met at the station on arrival and are conveyed by automobile or special street car to the Central Military Convalescent Hospital where they are entertained. The Voluntary Aid Association also rendered valuable assistance in the furnishing and equipment of the Central Hospital.

**Saskatoon**—A strong organization has been formed in the City of Saskatoon and very complete rules drawn up for the guidance of its Committees. If space permits, these rules will appear in Bulletin No. 2.

**Y.M.C.A.**

Fifty memberships in the Y.M.C.A. of Winnipeg have been donated to returned soldiers by prominent business men. This information was conveyed recently to the Returned Soldiers Association in a letter from Isaac Pitblado, Esq., K.C., who stated that the memberships would be renewed when the time limit had expired.

**PUBLICITY.**

Among the novel plans for appealing to the public on behalf of returned soldiers, is one which has been put into practise by the Alberta Provincial Commission. They have prepared a number of lantern slides which are sent to the moving picture theatres. It will be noticed in these slides, copies of which are reproduced herein, that there is a picture of a man who has lost his hand. This particular man is a Montevideo resident in Alberta. It is suggested that if this idea is followed out in other Provinces, the photograph of a well known local man should be substituted. Any of these slides can be procured from the C. W. Slide Company, 901, 4th Avenue, West, Calgary, at 20 cents each. If any change in the design is made the price will be 75 cents for the first slide and 20 cents each for further copies.

**EMPLOYMENT SECURED.**

A report was received from all the Provincial Commissions, with the exception of New Brunswick, showing the number of men for whom employment had been found to January 27, 1916. The figures are as follows:

Ontario.....	200
Quebec.....	140
New Scotia.....	80
British Columbia.....	79
Saskatchewan.....	33
Alberta.....	99
Manitoba.....	41
Head office of Commission, about.....	25

Total..... 647

All communications to the Commission should be addressed to the Secretary. Letters so addressed require no postage.

E. H. SCAMMELL,  
Secretary.

22 Victoria Street, Ottawa.